



# ACUB Fact Sheet

## Fort Bragg



### Background

Red-cockaded woodpeckers (RCWs) primarily live in longleaf pine. Only 5 percent of their historic habitat remains due to short rotation forestry, development and subsequent fire suppression. Biologists estimate that 988,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat are needed in the woodpeckers' historic range to achieve successful recovery. Fort Bragg is the Army's premier power projection platform and is home of the XVIIIth Airborne Corps and the U.S. Army Special Operations Command. Fort Bragg and the nearby Sandhills area game lands host the second largest populations of RCWs. Increasing development further fragmentizes their habitat, placing more emphasis on Fort Bragg and the Sandhill's ecosystem for preservation. Protection of the longleaf pine and wiregrass ecosystem is essential to recovering the RWC and maintaining military readiness.

### Objective

Fort Bragg along with its ACUB partners formed the North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership to protect and restore the RCW habitat. This initiative was the impetus for the ACUB program. The Partnership uses multiple funding sources and acquisition strategies to preserve the longleaf ecosystem, preserve forested habitat to help recover the RCW and other species of concern, maintain Fort Bragg's military readiness, and increase public recreation opportunities. Fort Bragg's partners will continue to acquire conservation easements to form a cohesive ecosystem in the Sandhills area.

### Partners

#### THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER

The North Carolina Chapter of The Nature Conservancy endeavors to protect diverse natural communities through the purchase of land. They purchase the lands and easements from the private landowner with Army and other

partnership funds. For further information visit <http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/northcarolina/> or call 910-246-0300.

#### NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is responsible for the State's transportation system. For further information, call 919-733-2520 or visit <http://www.ncdot.org/>.

#### NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

The Commission works to promote the "wise use" of the State's wildlife resources. For further information, call 919-733-7291 or visit [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org).

#### SANDHILLS AREA LAND TRUST

The Trust consists of volunteers that work to protect significant tracts of land in the Sandhills area. For further information, call 910-695-1323 or visit [www.sandhillslandtrust.org](http://www.sandhillslandtrust.org).

#### SANDHILLS ECOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

The Institute is a non-profit science and conservation organization that provides the research and science for the protection of the RWC. For further information, visit <http://www.sandhillsecological.org/>.

#### U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve wildlife for the benefit of the American public. For further information, call 919/856-4520, Ext. 17 or visit <http://www.fws.gov/southeast/es/>.

### Installation ACUB POC

Mike Lynch, Chief, Training, Fort Bragg, 910-396-4523, [lynchmich@bragg.army.mil](mailto:lynchmich@bragg.army.mil).